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Story.

BARBARA THORNE.

CONTINUED.

"You must really pardon my violence,"

said Mr. Darrow, laughing, when we

had reached the bottom. "Look back and

see what you have escaped."

"I could have guided her without

your assistance," I said, sullenly, and

he answered with a clear, earnest

look straight into my eyes:

"No, you could not, my poor

child, and you cannot yourself. You

are at perpetual war with cir-

cumstances. You had better con-

sider my offer, let me be your friend

at least while we are together."

And then he forgot—cast off for

Sylvia Marples would never let

her husband be his friend. No, such

an offer I should not accept, but oh,

what an almost irresistible tempta-

tion it was to me! I was not an-

gry at what he said of inability to

guide myself. I knew it was true,

and I was—oh, so tired of battling

with the world and with life, struggling

on quite alone, with no word of sym-

pathy or counsel! A true, a wise, and

a strong friend would be such an

estimable boon to me! Who else had

ever even given me justice? But this

man, young, handsome, distinguished,

had taken the word to give me more

than justice. He had shown me favor,

the unbecoming, the unbecoming,

chivalric favor of a man to a woman,

just as though I were any other else.

He had absolutely praised me—

meaning what he said; he offered

me to be my friend, meaning it as

well.

No one but a woman like myself,

who had never before received a

word of consideration, could appreciate

the worth to me of the few

crumbs which had fallen to me from

that strong and gentle hand. But I

knew well that I could not be so

foolish in me to allow the flavor to

be taken out of my every-day bread

and butter by frequent tasting which

must inevitably dissolve and vanish

away when the sun rose—the sun of

his love for the irresistible Sylvia.

No, I should decline it with thanks

but the struggle had weakened me

none the less. All my pride of heart

and strength of will had been some-

how broken down beneath the un-

expected influence of a stranger's

kindness; and my own pride sur-

prised me by its softened tone, as I

said, wearily:

"I thank you, but you don't

know what you ask. It is impos-

able and happy, as they sauntered

to and fro among those perfumed

paths. It was evident, as they came

in presently together, looking each

so bright and beautiful, that there

would be very little need here of

Mrs. Marples's skill as a tactician.

One of the children came for me

by-and-by, and I went down at once

walked directly to the piano, and

began to play in the business man-

ner of one who knows he is hired

for that purpose. Mr. Darrow came

forward immediately to turn over

the leaves, but I said:

"Thank you, it is not necessary. I

prefer to do it myself." And he

smiled a little oddly, and went back

to his seat by Sylvia's side.

Music was the only solace of my

life—the only solace in which my

better self ever found expres-

sion. I could not play other

than well, but I tried this evening

to play in as little subjective a way

as possible. I chose a rather long,

loud, and elaborate piece, and I

rendered it as if I were on a concert-

stage. The piano stood out in the

room, and I could see Mr. Darrow's

face. It wore a puzzled, an amu-

sed, and yet an admiring look; and

I heard him whisper presently to

Miss Marples:

"What wonderful power in those

little hands!"

"You would think so if you could

see them box the children's ears

sometimes," was the reply, uttered

with a laugh. He gave her a cur-

ious look of surprise and disgust,

which she answered by a reiteration

shrug of her beautiful shoulders,

and an elevation of her arched eye-

brows, and I played on all the same

striking out clashing chords, and

executing marvellous tricks of trills

and arpeggios, disdaining duty to

take any notice of the malicious

faux pas.

"Would be a pity, indeed, if I

had to resort to brute force in gov-

erning that little head of yours,"

said he, looking at me with a

mischievous smile. "I have been

playing for an hour, and then I

rose, bowed quietly, and left the

room. How tired I was of it all!

How glad to get to bed!

An hour's hard thinking and a

night's good rest restored my cap-

acity entirely. I rose quite cool,

cool, collected, and armed cap-a-

pie for my daily warfare. To my amu-

sement, and a little to my amuse-

ment, when I descended to the din-

ing-room, I found both Mr. Darrow

and Miss Marples there.

It seemed that he was as early

riser, and had petitioned to be al-

lowed to join the "railroad break-

fast," as the children called their

father's hurried morning meal. So

Sylvia had made a mighty effort in

his honor, and appeared likewise.

She looked lovely—that, of course

in her new dress of deep blue

muslin, just a soft haze of sleepiness

wrapping her in a transparent

mist, but I knew what a martyr she

was, and secretly enjoyed her suffer-

ing.

I paid for it with a pang of envy

an hour or two later when, as I was

unwillingly scattered forces for

the school-room, I saw her

mounted for a morning ride with

Mr. Darrow. Seated upon her milk

white mare, her habit of bright blue

clothes sweeping almost to the ground,

the snowy plume of her hat mingling

with the wind, and her face gleam-

ing with the soft brightness of ex-

citement tinting her cheeks, and fill-

ing her eyes with light, she looked

very embodiment of beautiful Nature

—like the sky with its brilliant blue,

dappled with fleecy clouds, or the

roaring flood with its surging waves,

or the distant hills, clad in

azure and crowned with gold on light.

All about her was free, flowing, har-

monious; and I did not find it strange

that her companion gazed at her

with looks of wonder and delight.

It was a picture of the good, the

picture was enough for me, and I

gave the word of command to my

refractory little brigade, and march-

ed them double-quick to their posts.

After dinner Miss Marples col-

The Shelby Sentinel

The Cadetship Sales.

The plea of Mr. Whitmore, argued so disastressfully to his client by General Butler, that the cadet money all went to the poor, has revived the old story of the miller who sometimes had crazy fits in which he always imagined himself to be the Lord judging the world. On these occasions he would put on a paper crown, ascend a pile of meal bags with great dignity, and call his neighbors in succession. The same ones were always judged; and they were millers of his vicinity. The first summoned was Hans Schmidt.

"Hans Schmidt, stand up. Hans, what is your business in this old world?" "I was a miller, Oh Lort."

"Was you a joost mon?" "Vell, ven der vater was low and the pishness is bad, O Lort, sometimes I takes leetle extra doles."

"Vell, Hans, you shall go ofer mit der goats, already yet."

And in succession all were tried and immediately sentenced to go over to the goats. Last of all the miller invariably tried himself in the following style:

"Jacob Miller, stand up. Jacob, what was your pishness in dat order world?" "I was a miller, Oh Lort."

"Was you always a joost mon, Jacob?"

"Vell, Oh Lort, ven de vater was a leetle low and de pishness pad, I sometimes takes some leetle extra doles; but, Oh Lort, I all de gives does extra doles to de poor."

[After a long pause.] "Vell, Jacob Miller, you can go ofer mit der sheeps, but it is von dam tight space."—Wash. Cor. Cincinnati Gazette.

A young domestic, named Marion Chesterton, was burned to death at Covington on Saturday night. She was pouring coal oil on the fire to start it when her clothes caught the flames and before they were extinguished, her injuries were fatal.

Two rival candidates are claiming to be the rightful Mayor of Richmond, Va., and the hostilities between the two and their adherents resulted in some bloodshed.

Gen. Ames is credited with saying that he has fixed things in Mississippi, so as to give the radicals control of the state for at least five years to come! So much for bayonets.

Black Men! Look Out.

The negro, and all that he has gained—not by the war, but by the necessities of the Radical party—are on trial before the white tribunal of the United States. He is a world minority. When the Jacobin has done with him as a tool, and is ready to drop him, then comes his crisis. Let him prepare for judgment! The Montgomery Advertiser has been doing some suffering crying that it would be well for the negro to study and understand—

Look at the figures:

There are between seven and eight millions of voters in this country. Of these 225,000 are negroes. There are 775,000 in the fifteen slave-holding States, 7,500 in the six New England States, 41,000 in the five States of Ohio, Indiana, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and 8,500 in the remaining ten Western States and Territories. In the fifteen slave States there are about one million four hundred thousand voters.

The figures prove beyond dispute that the future destiny of the negro is in the hands of the white race in the South. Their voting strength is 775,000 against the white four hundred thousand voters.

The numerical strength of the white element is growing hourly by immigration and natural increase. The black strength is as steadily diminishing from natural causes, and they have no sources of foreign supply than should the negro do? Make friends with the white people in the South, or adhere to their carpet bag enemies? It is for them to determine. If they choose the latter course, they must meet their fate with them, and go to the bottom with the sinking Radical ship. Let them prepare for judgment.

IMMIGRATION.—Large numbers of immigrants from the Northern States are seeking homes in Tennessee.

White immigrants are pouring into Mississippi at an unprecedented rate.—Chicasso county has imported 700 white laborers and landowners come out up to this time.

Two Southern gentlemen, Messrs. Galt and Williams, are at present in Hong Kong making arrangements to send 700 Chinese laborers to Savannah and New Orleans.

GOOD TEMPLARS IN DANVILLE.—We learn from the Advocate, that J. J. Hickman, G. W. C. T., delivered a temperance address on Monday evening, 14th at the close of which many persons gave their names as ready to co-operate in an organized movement. Whereupon a lodge of Good Templars was at once set to work, and officers elected.—Ec.

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